

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

EP2004/009685

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C22B19/04 C22B5/16 C22B9/22 C22B4/08 C22B13/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C22B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 942 023 A (BITLER JOHN A ET AL) 24 August 1999 (1999-08-24) abstract; figure	10, 11
X	DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 198223 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class M25, AN 1982-47597E XP002310971 & SU 855 040 B (GEL V I) 15 August 1981 (1981-08-15) abstract	10, 11
A	US 4 415 356 A (VICTOROVICH GRIGORI S ET AL) 15 November 1983 (1983-11-15) claims 1-2; example II	1-9



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 December 2004

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International Application No

PCT, EP2004/009685

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 521 245 A (KUUR VYACHESLAV P ET AL) 4 June 1985 (1985-06-04) abstract; examples	1-9
A	US 4 519 836 A (ABDEEV JURY M ET AL) 28 May 1985 (1985-05-28) abstract	1-9
A	US 4 571 260 A (JOHANSSON LEIF ET AL) 18 February 1986 (1986-02-18) column 4, lines 5-21 and 30-37	1-9
A	DATABASE COMPENDEX 'Online! Engineering Information, Inc., New York, NY, US; DE SCHEPPER A: "Liquid-liquid extraction of germanium by LIX-63" XP002260042 Database accession no. EIX78110005759 abstract & CHLORIDE HYDROMETALL, INT SYMP, PROC, 26 September 1977 (1977-09-26), - 28 September 1977 (1977-09-28) pages 357-384, Brussels, Belgium	7

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Information on patent family members

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